



NEWS

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 7, 2002

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Lauren Kravetz Patrich at (202) 418-7944

FCC SEEKS COMMENT ON PROPOSED LICENSING AND SERVICE RULES IN THE 5.9 GHZ BAND FOR DEDICATED SHORT-RANGE COMMUNICATIONS IN THE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS RADIO SERVICE

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission today issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeking comment on proposed licensing and service rules for the 5.9 GHz Band (5.850-5.925 GHz band) for Dedicated Short-Range Communications (DSRC) in the Intelligent Transportation Systems Radio Service.

Today's action will assist the Commission in furthering the goals of Congress, the Department of Transportation, and the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) community to improve the safety and efficiency of the nation's surface transportation infrastructure. DSRC systems are being designed to provide a short-range, wireless link to transfer information between vehicles traveling at high speeds and roadside units, other vehicles, or portable roadside units. In this regard, DSRC will be essential to many ITS applications that are expected to improve traveler safety, decrease traffic congestion, reduce air pollution, and conserve vital fossil fuels.

Background

In October 1999, the Commission released a Report and Order, ET Docket No. 98-95 (*Allocation Report and Order*) allocating the 5.9 GHz band for DSRC-based ITS applications and adopting basic technical rules for DSRC operations. Since the release of the *Allocation Report and Order*, the Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) – a Federal Advisory Committee to the Department of Transportation on ITS matters – has worked to develop a consensus in the ITS community on the development of licensing and service rules. Since October 2000, ITS America has filed numerous documents with the Commission concerning the development of the service rules for DSRC operations in the 5.9 GHz band. Most recently, in July 2002, ITS America filed a detailed proposed band plan and set of licensing and operational rules.

Specifics of the adopted Notice

In the *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, the Commission:

- Tentatively concludes that the 5.9 GHz band should be used primarily for public safety purposes
- Seeks comment on how to define “public safety” uses of the 5.9 GHz band
- Seeks comment on whether to modify the definition of DSRC
- Seeks comment on how to license roadside units (site-based or geographic area)
- Seeks comment on how to achieve interoperability in the band

Action by the Commission on November 7, 2002, by Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (FCC 02-302). Chairman Powell, Commissioners Abernathy, Copps and Martin.

- FCC -

Wireless Bureau Contact: Nancy Zaczek (202) 418-0680 or nzaczek@fcc.gov.

WT Docket No. 01-90